

Amendments to the Specification:

Please note that the following changes to the Specification have been previously presented to International Bureau under Article 34 on the 21 June 2005.

Please amend page 3, beginning on line 1, paragraphs 1-4 as follows:

radially inner portion engagable with the wheel rim, ~~the radially inner portion comprising a band adapted to be supportingly received on, and thereon, the radially inner portion comprising a band adapted to be~~ releasably fixed with respect to[[,]] the outer periphery of the wheel rim by being welded thereto.

~~The band may be releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the wheel rim in any appropriate way. The welding may comprise welding, such as stitch or spot welding, at circumferentially spaced intervals around the band.~~

Preferably, the band comprises a rigid band of fixed diameter.

Conveniently, the rigid band comprises a metal band ~~adapted to be releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the wheel rim by being welded thereto. The welding may comprise welding, such as stitch or spot welding, at circumferentially spaced intervals around the band.~~

Please amend page 5, beginning on line 3, paragraphs 2-3 as follows:

According to a second aspect of the invention there is provided a combination of a wheel rim and a tyre, the wheel rim comprising a tyre support surface incorporating a bead seat on each side of the rim, each bead seat comprising an inner seat portion and an outer seat portion terminating in an arcuate portion defining the outer periphery of the wheel rim, and the tyre comprising a radially inner portion engagable with the wheel rim, ~~the radially inner portion comprising a band adapted to be supportingly received on, and releasably fixed with respect to, the outer periphery of the wheel rim.~~ to be supportingly received thereon, the radially inner portion comprising a band adapted to be releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the wheel rim by being welded thereto.

According to a third aspect of the invention there is provided a wheel rim and tyre assembly,

wherein the wheel rim comprises a tyre support surface incorporating a bead seat on each side of the rim, each bead seat comprising an inner seat portion and an outer seat portion terminating in an arcuate portion defining the outer periphery of the wheel rim, and wherein the tyre comprises a radially inner portion engaged with the wheel rim, the radially inner portion comprising a rigid band supportingly received on, and releasably fixed with respect to, the outer periphery of the wheel rim, the band being releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the wheel rim by being welded thereto.

Please insert the Abstract page into the application as the last page thereof. A courtesy copy of the Abstract is typed on a separate page as required by U.S. practice.

Abstract

A tyre (10) adapted to be fitted onto a conventional wheel rim (13) for pneumatic tyres, the rim (13) has a tyre support surface (15), bead seats (17), each bead seat (17) comprises an inner seat portion (19) and an outer seat portion (21) terminating in an arcuate portion (22) defining the outer periphery of the rim (13), the tyre (10) comprises a radially inner portion (31) engageable with the rim (13), the radially inner portion comprising a band (41), the band comprises a metal band adapted to be supportingly received on, and releasably fixed with respect to the outer periphery of the rim (13) by welding at circumferentially spaced intervals, the tyre (10) further comprises a cushioning structure (33), the cushioning structure (33) comprises a resiliently deformable body of appropriate material such as rubber, bonded onto the band (41), the band (41) provides a rigid base for supporting the resiliently deformable body (43).